

ARTICLE 34 A 091868842

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What is claimed is:

1. An ionizer monitor adapted to detect faults in an ionizer having high voltage circuits, said monitor comprising a sensing circuit (13, 14) able to be capacitively coupled (18, 19) to said high voltage circuits for detecting faults.

2. An ionizer monitor as in claim 1, wherein said ionizer has a reference circuit (9) or an emitter circuit (8) and said sensing circuit (13, 14) is able to be capacitively coupled (18, 19) to a reference circuit (9) or an emitter circuit (8) of said ionizer.

3. An ionizer monitor as in claim 1, wherein said ionizer monitor is usable in connection with a self-balancing ionizer.

4. An ionizer monitor as in claim 1, further comprising an alarm display coupled to said sensing circuit for indicating fault detection.

5. An ionizer monitor as in claim 1, further comprising a control circuit coupled to said sensing circuit for controlling said ionizer responsive to fault detection.

6. A method of detecting faults in high voltage circuits of an ionizer without affecting operation of said high voltage circuits, said method comprising the step of:

sensing the voltage of said high voltage circuits by capacitively coupling a sensing circuit with said high voltage circuit; and

comparing the sensed voltage with a threshold voltage.

ARTICLE 34 *Art 4*

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7. A method as in claim 6, further comprising the step of displaying an alarm if said sensed voltage is less than or equal to said threshold voltage.

8. A method as in claim 6, wherein said ionizer has a reference circuit (9) or an emitter circuit (8) and said sensing step includes capacitively coupling (13, 14) a sensing circuit (13, 14) with a reference circuit (9) or an emitter circuit (8).

5

9. A method as in claim 6, wherein said ionizer monitor is usable in connection with a self-balancing ionizer.

10. A method as in claim 6, further comprising the step of controlling said ionizer in response to said sensing step sensing a voltage less than or equal to said threshold voltage.

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